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Students` Medical Council

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THE AURICLE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE STUDENTS' MEDICAL COUNCIL WITWATERSRAND UNIVERSITY.
Vol 3 No I9 Mondy, I8th August, I952 Price Id

S.R.C. REPORT ON SAMSU

PRETORIA ALLEGATIONS DISPROVED

In the "Perdeby" of the 3rd May I952 and in a letter to the Wits SRC dated 9th Junethe Pretoria Sentrale Studenteraad alledged that (i) Wits had entered into a Gentlemans Agreement with them whereby Wits would not send any Non-European delegates to meetings of SAMSU

(ii) towards the end of March I952 (two-three weeks before the SAMSU Executive meeting in C.Town) four Wits students, Messers C.Didcott, G.Low, J.Hunt and K.duPlessiswere told by Pretoria that they (Pret.) had accepted the Samsu constitution purely on the understanding that there was a gentleman's agreement and that they would in fact withdraw if Wits sent a N-E. delegate.

In the SRC Exec. report it is clearly established that no Gentlemen's agreement was ever entered into by the Wits negotiators. Pretoria's allegations apparently arose from Wits negotiators remarks that we were unlikely to send a N-E. to Samsu plus misrepresentation on the pat of some Pretoria students.

Towards the end of March Pretoria admit in the above letter having been told by members of the Wits SRC that Wits knew of no G. Agreement. Yet on May the 3rd "Die Perdeby" launced a vicious attack on Nusas and the Wits SRC for having broken the alledged G.Agreement. Clearer and more irrefutable evidence of Pretoria's bad faith in this matter could not be found. As the SRC report states Pretoria's role in this whole matter is "particularly odious".

S.M.C. CRITICISED

The Wits SMC are criticised in the Report for failing to make the Wits view clear to Pretoria and for the unsatisfactory and unrealistic way in which the negotiations were conducted.

SRC censures three Wits students

The second allegation was admitted to be true by Hunt and du Plessis and partially true by Didcott and Low. Had the SMC known of this informal meetin and its proceedings, it may not have attended the Cape Town meeting, thus saving considerable and fruitless expence to the students.

A.M.S.T.F.

At the beginning of 1952 the A.M.S.T.F. Committee was able to grant three bursaries. Commendable though it is, it is a mere drop in the vast ocean of African doctors needed.

Witsies have been asked to help collect money on Saturday, 30th of this month on street corners and at theatre doors in the city and elsewhere. The A.M.S.T.F. officials complain that the response is, especially among the Medical students, extremely poor and most disheartening.

One official said that the contrast between the response here at Wits. and that in Europe is most striking. At the recent NUSAS Conference, the Assembly placed on record its thanks and appreciation to U.C.T. and Pietermaritzburg in particular for their consistent efforts to raise money for the fund. The Assembly also thanked the Overseas Student Organisations which have been and will be contributing. The I.U.S. relief section has promised to supply one bursary annually. The students of Denmark, German, Finland and Czechoslovakia have generously contributed. The I.U.S has sent a circular appealing for financial help to its member organisations.

The best way we at Wits. can show our appreciation to our generous helpers is to wholeheartedly support our own campaign (for the A.M.S.T.F. is 90% ours). Spare an hour on Saturday (not necessarily in the morning) to collect a few pounds for the A.M.S.T.F. Leave your name and furthe particulars at the S.M.C. Office.

YOUTH

to discuss their needs.

Following upon the suggestion of the Dutch youth in an Amsterdam refinery, all the major youth movements in the world have been considering the needs and interests of their members. This has been done by way of discussion groups, regional conferences, national conferences, conferences of students and of working youth. The aim of all this discussion is to define quite clearly the special needs of every particular group of youth. The desire of working youth for better training facilities, and the attempts of students to obtain increased state scholarships are examples of the problems dealt with.

Not only are the problems clarified, but also those demands that are common to all youth, such as for example, healthy-living conditions and sporting facilities. The purpose of all this discussion is to elaborate ways and means of satisfying the needs of youth.

It would be an excellent move for us medical students to get together and discuss our needs and ways and means of satisfying them. As an example, one may cite the critical position of our Refectory. Elton Goldblatt tells us that in France large meals are served at student resturaunts for approximately 11d. This is possible only because the Government subsidises each meal eaten. It is not impossible for us to obtain subsidisation. In reading a French student ' account of their battle to win this subsidisation one is struck by the similarity of circumstances. By repeated representation, and by arousing public sympathy, the French students succeeded in their fight. Every single student participated in the campaign by talking about it, by arranging public meetings, petitions and by representations to every conceivable authority, health, educational and financial.

In thus helping ourselves we could help others. We could encourage NUSAS to participate in this campaign.

In participating in the International Conference in defence of the Rights of Youth to be convened in Vienna in mid-February 1953, we would gain the support and add our support to the self-same campaigns of 50,000,000 other youth.

In adding the names of our student leaders to the sponsors of the International Conference we would be including ourselves with a most distinguished and renowned group of people. Among the distinguished sponsors of the International Conference is Mrs. Jessie Street former Australian delegate to UNO

AURICLE

EDITORIAL Monday 18th August.

Editor: Effie Schultz

The Editor alone is responsible for all comment and matters of policy unless otherwise stated.

LET US NOT FORGET.

The events of last Thursday made many of us sit up with a start.

Two of our fellow-students were arrested in terms of a pernicious piece of legislation. Why? They were leaders of youth struggling for their freedom and for all its benefits. As future doctors in this country they could not tolerate the frustration among the people - frustration that springs from the manifold restrictions on movement, speech, employment, residence, recreation and EDUCATION: that springs from the system of 'below the bread-line' wages, starvation diets, homes that are not wind-proof nor rain-proof and on top of that overcrowded (the pressure and presence of human bodies may mitigate the effect of the rain and the wind); frustration that springs from the nagging fear of a police raid in the middle of the night, the nagging fear of insecurity frustration that ensures a sick mind and a sick body. They could not tolerate this and they wanted to improve the lot of the people.

For this our inhuman government wants to imprison them. For this.

MEDICAL CONGRESS > SEPT. 21-26

Your attention is drawn to the programmes and details posted on the notice boards at Medical School. Here, however, are a few salient points:

1. The Plenary Sessions
   Tuesday September 21st. 9 - 12.30 p.m. in the University Great Hall.
   Subject: THE CLINICAL APPLICATION OF CORTICOTROPIN AND CORTISONE THERAPY - Dr. M. Suzman

   Openers of discussion: Drs. M.Horwitz, M. Franks, L.J.A. Lowenthal, C.N. Barnard, L. Brown.

   Thursday September 25th. 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. in the University Great Hall.
   Subject: PSYCHOLOGICAL ILLNESS IN SOUTH AFRICA THE PROBLEMS OF TREATMENT AND CARE - Dr. Alice Cox

   Openers of discussion: Professor G. Elliott, Dr. I.R. Vermoolen, Mr. K.L. Allen.

2. Films to be shown in Room 38 - ground floor, University.
   THE ELECTRO-ENCEPHALOGRAM
   FEELING OF REJECTION (Mental Health Society of the Witwatersrand)
   PLACE IN THE SUN (Pretoria School for Cerebral Palsy)
   STRIP-GRAFTING OPERATION FOR VARICOSE ULCERS (Mr. W. Girdwood)
   CANCER OF THE SKIN
   CANCER OF THE BREAST
   THE MANAGEMENT OF BURNS
   SUBSTITUTION TRANSFUSION IN THE TREATMENT OF ERYTHROBLASTOSIS FOETALIS.

S.M.C.
General Meeting.
TUESDAY
in the Harveian.
Guest Speaker.
PROF. UNDERWOOD

I can assure you that the individual papers cover a very wide range of subjects and all promise to be most interesting and of the greatest value.

1. All clinical year students may attend all discussions, meetings and exhibitions at Congress free of charge.
2. All those wishing to attend Congress must register and obtain badges for identification purposes. This is most important, as it is most undesirable and in fact impossible to allow unkown people to wander round the University and visit the valuable exhibits during the Congress. Details re registration which will probably take place at Medical School early in September will be made available later.
3. Those who register as student members of Congress will obtain free programmes covering all events during Congress week.
4. Students are required to help in a large variety of ways and those assisting will be given priority in receiving souvenir brochures (containing synopses of all the papers to be read in addition to a full programme). There are only a limited number of these available, so it is advisable to give in your name now, indicating in what way you would like to help.

The following opportunities present themselves and we would be grateful if you would fill in your name on the appropriate lists on the notice board, or inform the S.M.C. Office, or contact any member of the S.M.C.

1) Students to assist in the erection of the exhibit of doctors'hobbies and the Scientific exhibit during the weekend prior to the opening of Congress i.e. September 19th to 21st.
2) Students to be attached to the registration office and the organising committee during the above weekend.
3) Ushers for:- The popular lecture "Charlatanism in Medicine; the two plenary sessions and the official opening on Monday Sept. 22nd at 8.15 p.m.

Professor Underwood will address the student body on Medical Congress at the opening meeting of the Second Annual General Meeting of the S.M.C.

I.F.M.S.A.

Standing Committee on Student Health (Finland) It was reported that after much investigation it was decided to investigate and publish "facts about actual arrangements of student health services offered by the universities and comparable institutions throughout the whole world". It could, and would not consider the need of student health services at the present. Dr. Kari Savonen, head physician of the Students' Health Bureau in Helsinki and who has been active in W.H.O. is assisting the committee in their work. A comprehensive questionaire was worked out and will be circulated as soon as possible.

2) Medical Education:

A report comparing the standards of medical education has been started. Information which was at hand at the time of the conference has been published (I have a copy and if anyone is interested it shall be in the S.M.C. Office for a short while). The object of this standing committee is best summarised in the following extract from the report:-

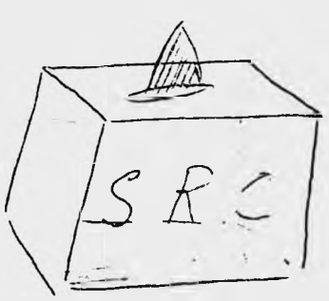
At Copenhagen it was decided "to establish a Standing Committee on Medical Education, from which the co-operating members would be able to obtain information about medical education in countries other than their own. The committee would be concerned with obtaining the recognition of courses, examinations and internships, in different countries. The committee could, where it thought fit, suggest new plans for medical education which member countries should try to have instituted".

I might add at this stage that the World Medical Association are holding a conference in England in 1953 on Medical Education. The standing committee are now working in close co-operation with W.M.A. and will, if possible, be represented at this international conference.

REMEMBER

The SRC Elections are taking place this THURSDAY. 21st.

Watch "Wits Student"



3) Student Exchange.

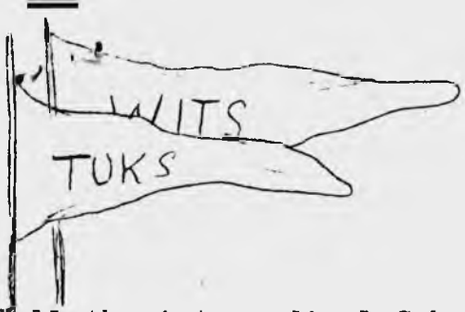
This is a particularly large department of I.F.M.S.A. Arrangements will be made to place students in hospitals in foreign countries during the summer vacations. Accommodation etc. shall be arranged on a reciprocal basis. Needless to say, on account of the tremendous distances involved this department will not be able to serve our students as efficiently as it can European students - or perhaps I should say that we will not be able to use the facilities offered on any large scale for individuals, but will be able to arrange for groups of students to undertake "clinical visits" to Europe, and for students to visit our country.

Concerning this subject we took it upon ourselves to arrange (provisionally of course) a six weeks trip to Holland for clinical students at the end of 1953. Provided air concessions will be available the tour will be compartively cheap. Further details will be available at a later date when further investigations have been made.

4) Finance:

This was the next item on the agenda. As in every sphere today, this was our biggest headache. Subscription fees were decided upon and the W.M.A. and W.H.O. were to be approached for financial assistance, Activities of I.F.M.S.A. will be slowed down until its finance is put on a sound footing. It is hoped that satisfactory arrangements will be made during the year, so that the next Assembly will not have to curtail its activities because of lack of funds.

THE AURICLE EXTENDS ITS SINCEREST SYMPATHY TO THE BEREAVED OF MR. PENCHARZ. MR. PENCHARZ WAS A SURGEON IN MR.LEE Mc GREGORS FIRM



ONS DANK TUKS

Well the intermedical School sports afternoon and social evening has again proved itself a most successful and enjoyable event and without a doubt it is now established as an annual fixture. Our sincere thanks go to the Tuks. who really did things in a grand style and made a terrific effort to see that every Witsie enjoyed him or herself.

The afternoon began with the womens tennis at 2 o'clock and here Wits. suffered their first defeat. However, the men took over and after some real battling drew with a strong Tukkie team.

The men's hockey were the next team to take the field, and here we saw some wild and enthusiastic play with 11 goals being scored altogether. Seven to Wits. and four to Tuks. The Wits. forwards showed some sparkling movements in which Nev. Welsh, Gravett and John Heimann were prominants, while Harry Harrison made some fantastic saves in goal.

Soon after the hockey began the Wits. 2nd XV began the match against the Tukkie final years. But even the able captaincy of Frank Gunn could not arouse the team from the depths of exhaustion, into which the Wits. team was plunged aft-er 10 minutes play and the Tuks. who were amazingly fit for final years, won 18-3.

The Wits. 1st XV excelled themselves and this was a fine game to watch. After 10 minutes Wits. were 5 points up after Sandy Sandeman although bleeding profusely from a lacerated scalp, ran from his own 25 to score under the posts. Tuks. scored a little later while half the Wits. team were attending to Ian Potgieter who dislocated his elbow. Wits. however, were again soon in the lead with a penalty and held this lead until far into the 2nd half, but the superior fitness of the Tuks. team who play regularly together told in the end and they won 13-8.

1st year was represented by Potgieter, Wilson and Mogg who all distinguished themselves and Conrad Dreyer did some sturdy work in the pack.

The women's hockey gave Wits. another win, with a final score of 4-2. Ant. Rosset the dashing centre forward scored 2 goals while Sonti Nicholson and Felicity Greene each scored 1.

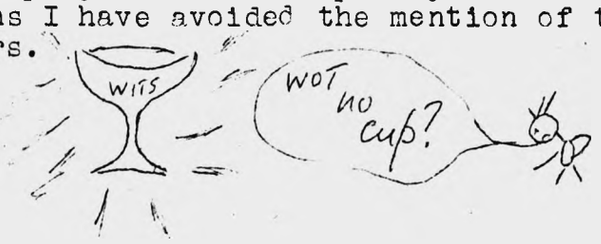
WELCOME BACK

The Auricle would like to take this opportunity of welcoming the five Wits. Springboks home from Helsinki. Although the fantastic competition they had to face put them out of their events early on, we hope they have returned packed with knowledge of modern training methods. It is hoped to publish articles written by these students in the future Auricles.

PENTATHLON

It was magnificent weather for the all-strenuous pentathlon event, which was contested for by the most noteworthy delinquents from Wits. and Tukkies. The event was to have been comprised of snooker, chess, darts and pintables. However, as these four were of such a strenuous nature, the players became exhausted after snooker and pintables and called it a day. Many players were carried out of the Pretoria cafe suffering from that well-known syndrome called "Pintable finger", which is comprised of a spasm of the abductor pollicis and extensor indicis. The pintable event ended in a draw, with the Wits. team giving the Tukkies a grand desmonstration of 'Tilting'.

In the snooker match which ended in a win for Tukkies 3 frames to 2, it was soon evident which of the players had mis-spent youths. For obvious reasons I have avoided the mention of the Wits. players.

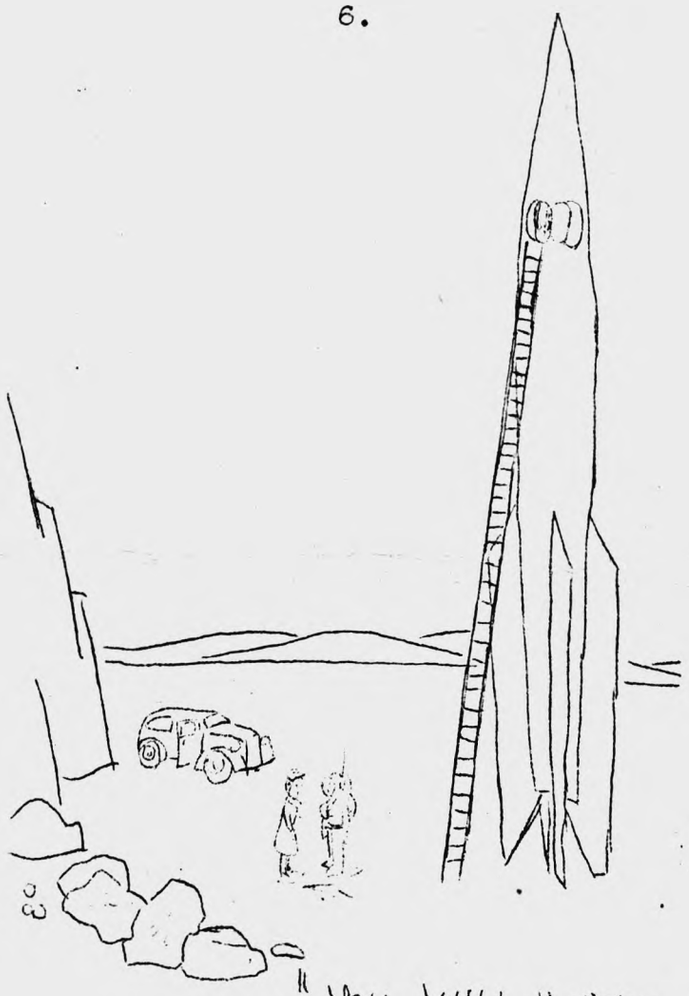


LETTER

Dear Madam,

We feel that had the sports editor's mind been less full of Faith, Hope and R.V.C. and more full of Wits, wins and hockey he would have been able to submit to us a truer report of what happened at Grahamstown.

Onlookers.



"You WILL WRITE, WON'T YOU?"

not EL.

ODE TO A CORONARY

Through stress and strain
He got that pain,
That gripped him on his chest.
He tossed and turned,
But only learned
For him there was no rest.

When doctor came
His arm was lame,
The pain went to his jaw.
With morphia in
Below the skin,
This pain began to thaw.

He did not speak
His pulse was weak,
His clothes were all besod.
The white cell count
It did amount
To twenty thousand odd.

The E.C.G.
Showed inverted T,
While his pressure, it was low.
A friction sound
Was also found,
Besides a systolic blow.

His blood P.I.
Was awful high,
So heparin was used.
Six weeks in bed
While he was fed,
Till muscle-scar was fused.

Besides the shock
And Cardiac-block,
The heart may fail or burst.
Although you hope
That he can cope,
Suspect and treat the worst.

Goodnight, goodnight,
Be not afright,
But rather all be bold;
Most doctors die,
Without a lie,
The way I just have told.

NB. An SRC general meeting has been requisitioned for Thursday - re arrest.